



WASHINGTON OZAUKEE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Annual Report

2021

The 2021 Annual Report is structured to address the 10 Essential Public Health Services, which provide a framework for public health. These services guide daily work and remind us of the responsibilities we have to prevent illness, promote health, and protect our community. We extend appreciation to all our community partners who work with us to sustain and improve the health of Washington County and Ozaukee County residents.

Thank you for supporting WOPHD in 2021.

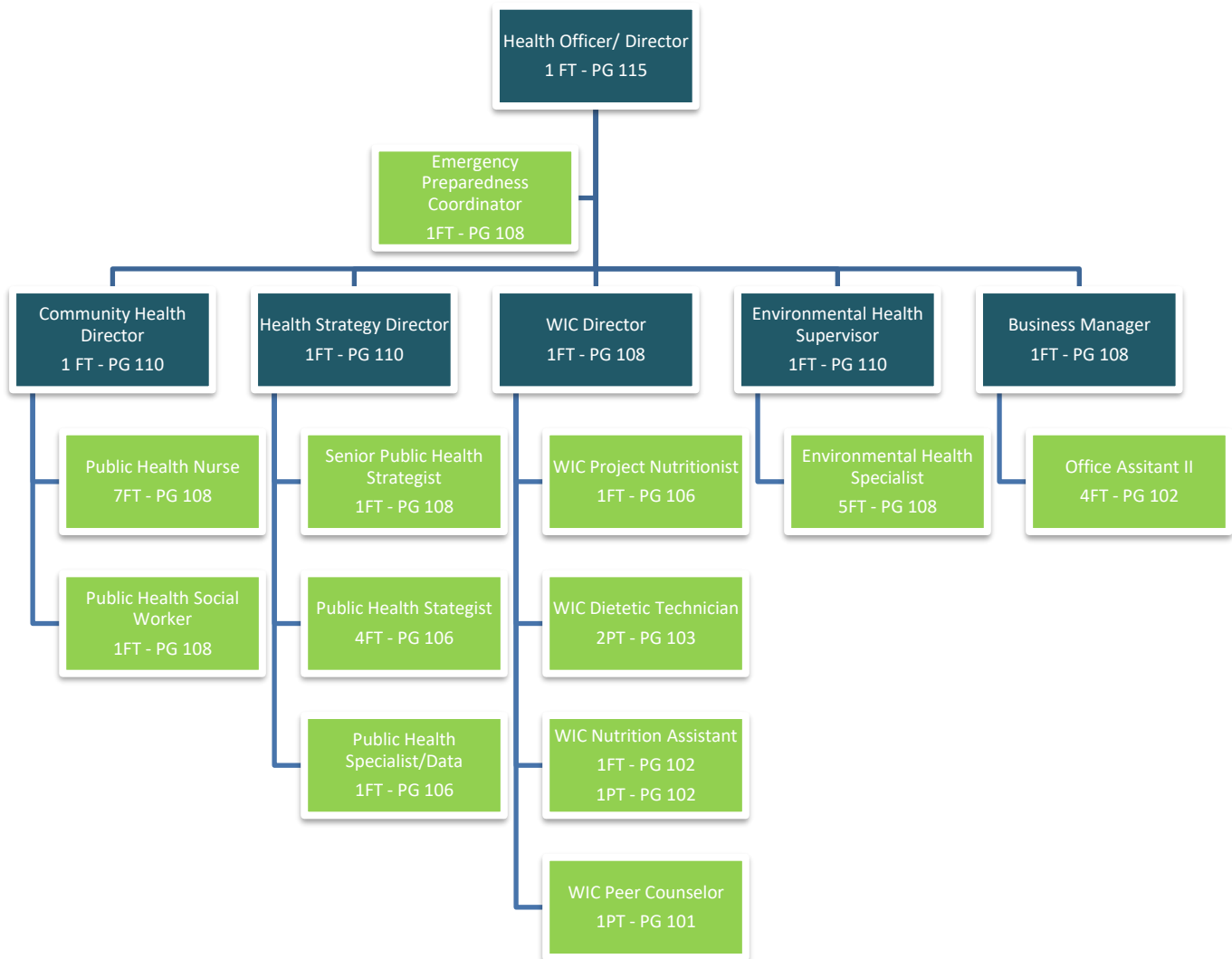
Washington Ozaukee Public Health Department

Annual Report 2021

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Organization Chart



Washington Ozaukee Joint Board of Health

Washington County Representatives

Don Kriefall, County Board Chair
Kris Deiss, County Board Member
Lois Krueger-Gundrum, County Board Member
Doreen Buntrock, Citizen Member
Travis Dowden, Citizen Member

Ozaukee County Representatives

Kathlyn Geracie, County Board Member
Donald Clark, County Board Member
Nitish Bangalore, Citizen Member
Doug McManus, Citizen Member

Dr. Steven Zils, Aurora, Medical Advisor



WASHINGTON OZAUKEE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Washington Ozaoukee Public Health Department (WOPHD)

Vision & Mission

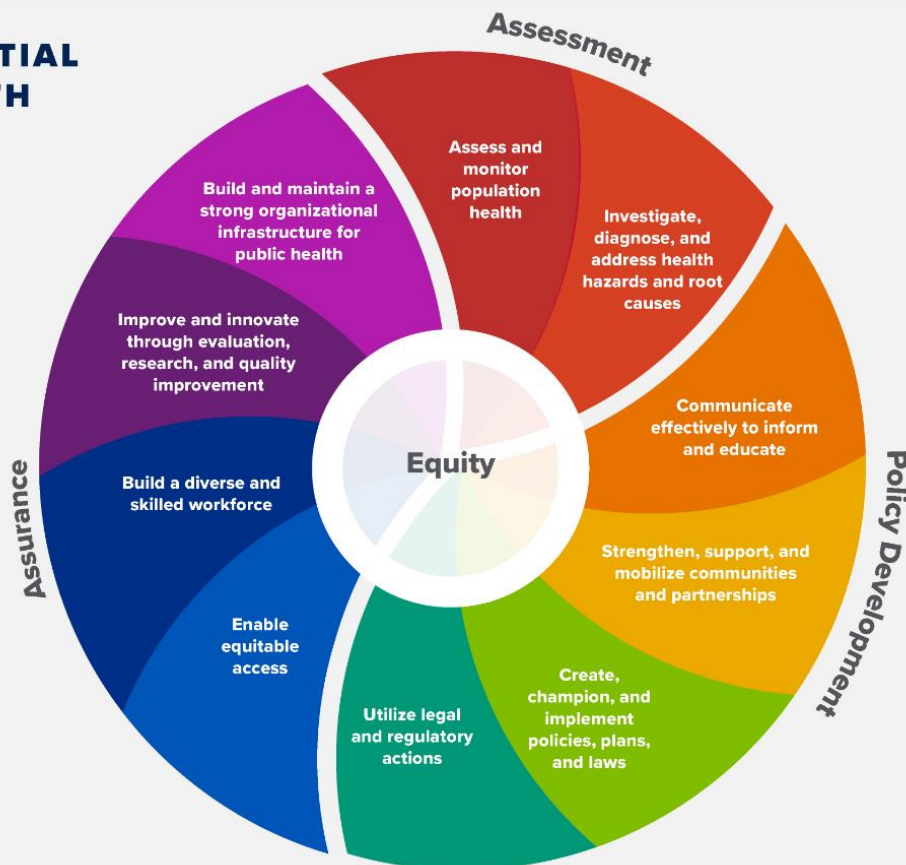
Vision: To be innovators in fostering healthy people, places and communities.

Mission: Improve quality of life by promoting, protecting and enhancing the health and well-being of the public.

THE 10 ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

*To protect and promote
the health of all people in
all communities*

The 10 Essential Public Health Services provide a framework for public health to protect and promote the health of all people in all communities. To achieve optimal health for all, the Essential Public Health Services actively promote policies, systems, and services that enable good health and seek to remove obstacles and systemic and structural barriers, such as poverty, racism, gender discrimination, and other forms of oppression, that have resulted in health inequities. Everyone should have a fair and just opportunity to achieve good health and well-being.



Created 2020

Essential Service 1

Assess and monitor population health status, factors that influence health, and community needs and assets

Essential Service 1 includes assessment of the health status of the community through formal and informal needs assessments and data analysis. The Washington Ozaukee Public Health Department collaborates with a broad group of community partners to address our health needs. Community health improvement planning and leading health indicator data guide our health focus areas.

Washington and Ozaukee Health Status

County Health Rankings collect data for every county in the United States and provide a state ranking. In 2021, Ozaukee was ranked the healthiest county in Wisconsin and Washington was ranked the 5th healthiest.

2021 Outcomes

- Despite the high rankings, health data of concern include the percentage of adults who smoke, are obese, drink excessively (defined as adults who report binge or heavy drinking in the past 30 days) and the number of self-reported poor mental health days.

Health Indicator	Washington	Ozaukee	Wisconsin
Adult Obesity	33%	24%	32%
Adult Smoking	16%	14%	17%
Excessive Drinking	28%	28%	27%
Poor Mental Health Days/Month	3.8	3.5	4.0

Essential Service 2

Investigate, diagnose, and address health problems and hazards affecting the population

Essential service 2 includes provision of epidemiological identification of emerging health threats, investigation of infectious disease and human health hazards and prevention of disease through immunizations.

Communicable Disease Control

Surveillance, investigation and follow-up of reportable diseases are statutory responsibilities of local health departments. Follow up is conducted to assure measures are taken to prevent potential disease transmission.

2021 Outcomes

- Public Health Nurses conducted **747** investigations on reportable communicable diseases cases in Washington County and **509** in Ozaukee County. Cases required 1027 encounters in Washington County and 1267 encounters in Ozaukee County **these numbers do not include COVID-19*
- 2 tuberculin skin tests were provided for individuals.

Sample of Diseases	WC	OC
Arboviral	0	1
Campylobacter	12	15
Cryptosporidium	5	1
E.Coli	12	7
Food/Water Outbreak	1	4
Giardia	8	7
Hep A	0	0
Hep B	1	1
Hep C	30	12
Lyme Disease	216	131
Mumps	0	0
Salmonella	19	18
STDs:		
Chlamydia	244	153
Gonorrhea	45	24
TB Active	0	2
Latent TB	40	34
Varicella	3	2

Emergency Preparedness

WOPHD is focused on maintaining a proactive emergency preparedness response, which we have continued to expand upon throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Implicit in this goal is the need to cultivate and sustain robust planning and response capabilities. The development of these capabilities is fostered in conjunction with contract objectives associated with Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) and Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI) grant funding. Taken together, these efforts place WOPHD in a position to enhance the safety of our community by maintaining an effective all-hazards preparedness program.

2021 Outcomes

- Met the objectives levied by PHEP and CRI grant funding agreements. Some of these objectives include:
 - Ensuring all staff have a minimum level of Incident Command System (ICS) training
 - Maintaining a jurisdictional administrator for volunteer management programs
 - Participation in the regional Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition (HERC)
 - Conducting inclusive risk planning for the whole community, including vulnerable populations
- Implemented new Incident Command Platform called ReadyOp to provide an efficient way for staff to conduct tasks and manage mass clinics, internal and external communication.
- Conducted a successful COVID-19 mass vaccination campaign, leading to **over 20,000** COVID-19 vaccinations in Washington and Ozaukee Counties.
- Maintained valuable partnerships with many community and regional groups including:
 - Ozaukee County Healthcare Partners
 - Washington County Healthcare Partners
 - Local Emergency Planning Commission (LEPC)
 - Ozaukee Fire Association
 - Whole Community Preparedness Group
 - Southeast Wisconsin HERC
 - Quad County Emergency Preparedness Group

Environmental Health Information and Consultation Services

WOPHD investigates complaints related to environmental health as well as provides environmental health resources to residents. Environmental Health Specialists provide consultation on private well testing, and advice on a host of issues, including air quality concerns, mold, radon, animal and insect complaints, lead and asbestos hazards, and other environmental health issues. The goal of this program is to protect the health of residents from environmental related illness and disease.

2021 Outcomes

- Environmental health staff responded to over 1,700 public health inquiries in Washington and Ozaukee Counties

Immunization Program

WOPHD aims to reduce or eliminate vaccine preventable diseases. In 2021, **21,143** vaccines (COVID-19 Vaccines n=21,052) were administered to 10,801 residents to prevent infectious disease.

Staff work closely with school districts to assure school age children are in compliance with the Wisconsin State Immunization Law.

2020-2021 School Year Outcomes

<i>Ozaukee County School Districts</i>	<i>Percent of students compliant with WI law</i>
Cedarburg	98.67
Grafton	99.6
Mequon/Thiensville	97.84
Northern Ozaukee	93.01
Port Washington/Saukville	No Report

<i>Washington County School Districts</i>	<i>Percent of students compliant with WI law</i>
Germantown	98.61
Hartford J1	99.31
Hartford UHS	99.85
Kewaskum	99.37
Holy Hill Area Sch Dist	95.29
Slinger	100
West Bend	99.1
State of Wisconsin	91.9

Seasonal Influenza

WOPHD offers flu vaccine in office to ensure our residents are protected from seasonal influenza. Influenza (flu) is a contagious respiratory disease that can lead to serious complications, hospitalization, or even death. Anyone can get the flu, and vaccinating against the flu is the single best way to prevent illness. The CDC recommends everyone 6 months of age and older is vaccinated against the flu every year.

2021 Outcomes

- WOPHD staff vaccinated **23** residents against influenza

Lead Poisoning Prevention

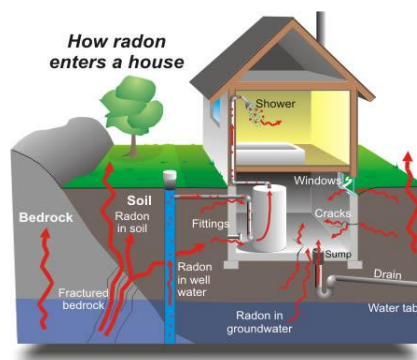
Children at risk for lead poisoning receive blood lead testing at the ages of 1 and 2, or between the ages of 3 and 5 years if they do not have a documented test. Lead test results from private medical providers are also recorded in the child's WIC record to assure appropriate follow up and testing is completed. This program provides education on prevention of lead exposure and case management services to families of children whose confirmed lead levels are 5 mcg/dl or higher.

2021 Outcomes

Indicator	Washington	Ozaukee	Total
# of children tested for lead poisoning	534	608	1142
# of children who had elevated lead level tests over 5mcg/dl			15

Radon Testing

WOPHD is the designated Radon Information Center. The dollars received from the Wisconsin Division of Public Health allow health department staff to distribute free radon kits and provide radon education to county residents. This year, WOPHD celebrated National Radon Action Month by staffing booths outside both offices for a full day in January to provide free kits to the public and answer questions about radon, which led to an increase in the total number of kits distributed this year.



2021 Outcomes

- 5 long-term radon kits and 327 short-term kits were distributed to Washington and Ozaukee residents

Essential Service 3

Communicate effectively to inform and educate people about health, factors that influence it, and how to improve it

Essential service 3 includes social marketing, targeted media public communication, providing accessible health information, and resources to reinforce health promotion messages and programs.

Car Seat Education and Installation

Car seat installation is imperative to keeping children safe while traveling in motor vehicles. WOPHD teaches families how to safely transport their children using car seats, booster seats and seat belts correctly. Child safety seats that are used correctly reduce the risk of death by as much as 71%. WOPHD typically provides monthly car seat clinics to the community in each county, offering car seat checks, and education. The COVID-19 pandemic impacted our ability to perform child safety seat checks in 2020, but we were able to begin providing car seat checks at our offices by appointment only, midway through 2021.

2021 Outcomes

- 35 child safety seats were evaluated for proper installation.

General Health Education

WOPHD provides partnership, education, and support to local school districts, community groups and office clients, and more. Topics may include breastfeeding, nutrition and physical activity, alcohol, tobacco, substance use prevention, mental health referral assistance, growth and development, and infectious disease prevention. The majority of 2021 was spent responding to the COVID-19 pandemic which included the production of educational materials, public health guidance, and social media promotion.

2021 Outcomes

- Expanded social media presence as part of COVID-19 pandemic response
- Produced and distributed the “Blueprint for Reopening Washington & Ozaukee Counties,” one of the first public publications produced in Southeast Wisconsin

Social Media Presence

WOPHD uses social media to educate the public about health issues and concerns. Facebook and Twitter postings weekly, providing timely health information.

2021 Outcomes

- Washington Ozaukee Public Health Department Facebook
 - Most engaging posts were related to COVID-19 statistics
- WOPHD Twitter
 - 740 followers (40 new in 2021)
 - 14k impressions
 - 1.41% engagement rate
- WOPHD Instagram
 - 275 followers (137 new in 2021)
 - 8.2k impressions
 - 4.39% engagement rate

Essential Service 4

Strengthen, support, and mobilize communities and partnerships to improve health

Essential service 4 focuses on convening and facilitating community groups in undertaking defined preventive and population focused activities in order to pool expertise and leverage all potential resources to solve community health problems.

Leadership Council

The Leadership Council provides foundational support to Washington County and Ozaukee County coalitions through collaboration and resource sharing. The Leadership Council is a compilation of members of Well Washington County and INVEST Ozaukee County, including: committee chairs, co-chairs, leaders representing local health systems, clinics, school districts, nonprofit organizations, and public health.

Well Washington County & INVEST Ozaukee County

Well Washington County and INVEST Ozaukee County are two independent coalitions that oversee public health activities in both counties. Each coalition uses community-based approaches to identify residents' health priorities and works toward improving health outcomes. Well Washington County and INVEST Ozaukee County members include: community members, nonprofit organizations, businesses, government agencies, school districts, public health, and health systems. The purpose of the coalitions is to mobilize stakeholders to make a measurable impact on the health needs of Washington and Ozaukee counties.

Leveraging the expertise and resources of the larger group, Well Washington County and INVEST Ozaukee County work to sustain and improve the health of residents by promoting physical activity and nutrition, improved mental health, prevention of youth alcohol and tobacco use, and the elimination of substance abuse. Most coalition activities were put on hold in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic and were led by community partners through 2021, as WOPHD went through a large transition in leadership.

Well Washington County & INVEST Ozaukee County 2021 Outcomes:

- Mental Health
 - Continue support of activities including Cultivate Mental Wellness in Our Parks and Screen Free Week
 - Promoted 2-1-1 and NAMI support groups and QPR Suicide Prevention Trainings
 - Health department staff completed QPR Suicide Prevention Trainings with NAMI – Washington County
- Obesity Prevention
 - Partnered with the WI Department of Health Services program, Harvest of the Month to promote buying local produce and healthy eating.
 - Continued partnership and engagement on Safe Routes to School planning committee
- Substance Abuse
 - 15 permanent medication collection sites between both counties
 - NARCAN Direct Program facilitation
 - Coordination of Ozaukee Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

Washington Ozaukee Coalition for Sexual Wellness

The Washington Ozaukee Coalition for Sexual Wellness was created in April 2019 under the leadership of the health department. The coalition was created in response to the 2018 Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) administered in six Washington County school districts. The YRBS is a survey managed by the Department of Public Instruction meant to monitor health-related behaviors among youth. The mission of the coalition is to advocate for sexual wellness in our communities by promoting factual, realistic information on human growth and development, sexual behaviors/education and reproductive health.

Washington County Heroin Task Force & Ozaukee County Substance Use Task Force

The Washington County Heroin Task Force and the Ozaukee Heroin Task Force/ Ozaukee Substance Use Task Force were formed in response to an increase in opiate and heroin use in both counties. The long term goal of these groups is to maintain the highest quality of life through the elimination of opioid abuse, achieved by community partnerships focused on prevention, policy, education, enforcement and treatment.

Both groups consist of community participation and partnerships with many agencies across the counties including law enforcement, schools, elected officials, businesses, county departments, and volunteers. The Ozaukee Substance Use Task Force is led by the Washington Ozaukee Public Health Department. The Washington County Heroin Task Force is led by community partner, Elevate (non-profit AODA agency).

Ozaukee 2021 Outcomes:

- Fall Drug Take Back Day Event held at Ozaukee Transit Center
- Seven permanent medication collection sites
- Coordination of Ozaukee Criminal Justice Coordinating Council
- NARCAN Direct Program

Washington 2021 Outcomes:

- Candle Light Vigils
- Breakfast with the Board & Legislative breakfast
- Eight permanent medication drop boxes

Child Death Review Team

Child Death Review (CDR) teams meet to review and discuss circumstances involved in child deaths in both counties. The role of CDR is to determine how the death could have been prevented and if families and close contacts are offered appropriate support and resources. CDR teams provide recommendations for interventions and strategies to prevent future child death. The Washington and Ozaukee Child Death Review Teams met once in 2021 to revisit the structure, partnership and purpose of child death review. This meeting was foundational to the continuation of this work.

Essential Service 5

Create, champion, and implement policies, plans, and laws that impact health

Essential service 5 refers to provision of leadership for systemic community and state level planning for health improvement, development and tracking of measureable health objectives as part of a continuous quality improvement strategy and development of codes, regulations and legislation to guide the practice of public health.

WOPHD completed the 2021 Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Planning Process with local partners and health care systems. The data gathered as part of this process is currently being finalized prior to publishing for community consumption and formation of our department's next Community Health Improvement Plan.

Essential Service 6

Utilize legal and regulatory actions designed to improve and protect the public's health

Essential service 6 refers to protection of drinking and recreational water supplies, enforcement of clean air standards, food safety and licensing and timely follow-up of environmental health concerns.

Beach Monitoring Program

WOPHD monitors the public beaches in both counties through a grant from the Wisconsin DNR. Public beach water is monitored from Memorial Day through Labor Day for elevated E. Coli levels and adverse conditions. After monitoring, WOPHD uses E. Coli levels to determine beach advisories and closures, which are posted through signage and online at www.wibeaches.us. WOPHD also uses a Twitter account to post results: @OzaukeeBeach.

2021 Outcomes

- 1 Beach closure occurred due to bacteria exceedance, with 7 advisory days

DNR Well Water Program

WOPHD inspects and tests transient wells in Washington, Ozaukee and Milwaukee Counties through a grant from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. The program requires an annual test for bacteria and nitrate for any well that has public access to water for at least 25 individuals per day for at least 60 days of the year.

2021 Outcomes

- 434 establishments completed water testing
- 94 well system sanitary survey inspections were conducted

Food and Recreational Safety Program

WOPHD is an agent for the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) and the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DPS) in Washington County. WOPHD provides inspections, consultation and licensing services for: Restaurants and Retail Food; Public Swimming Pools and Water Attractions; Hotels, Motels, Tourist Rooming Houses and Bed and Breakfasts; Tattoo and Body Piercing; and Campgrounds and Recreational/Education Campgrounds.

2021 Outcomes

- 123 routine licensing inspections were completed
- 92 pre-inspections were completed
- 26 follow-up inspections were completed

Essential Service 7

Assure an effective system that enables equitable access to the individual services and care needed to be healthy

Essential service 7 assures effective entry for disadvantaged people to a coordinated system of care, linkage of services for special population groups, and technical assistance for effective worksite health promotion/disease prevention programs.

WIC Referrals

Women and families are referred to additional community resources based on their needs. In 2021 a Maternal and Child Health services tool was developed to assist with the WIC Referral process. The tool included fluoride, immunizations, lead concerns, car seats, breastfeeding, home safety, child development, mental health, substance use, smoking cessation and more. In 2021, MCH hosted a Community Connection Market where WIC families and community families with young children in need were invited to attend a drive through resource fair.

2021 Outcomes

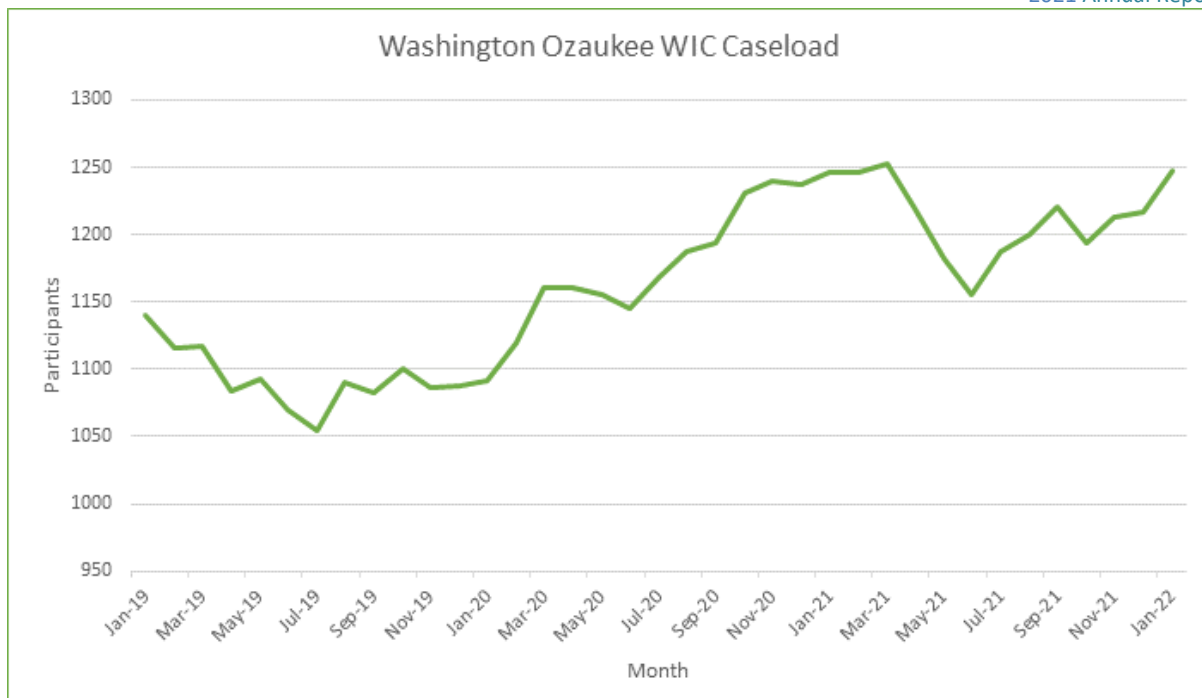
- 461 women or families were referred to additional resources
- >110 families attended the Summer Community Connection Markets in both Washington Ozaukee counties
- >88 families attended Winter Ozaukee County Toy drive where WIC and MCH provided resources and education during event

Women, Infant, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program

The Women Infant and Children program (WIC) promotes and maintains the health and well-being of nutritionally at-risk pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children. WIC provides supplemental nutritious foods, nutrition and breastfeeding information and referral to other health and nutrition services. During 2020, WIC received waivers from USDA that included waiving the requirement for physical presence for WIC certifications and appointments and these waivers are extended into 2022. Therefore, most of 2021 WIC appointments were completed over the phone and referral data for height, weight, hemoglobin, and lead level were used for nutrition assessment. Furthermore, blood lead screenings were not performed in 2021 and participants were encouraged to be screened for lead at their local health providers. From June through September, each woman and child participating in WIC received an additional \$35 Cash Value Benefit to purchase fruits and vegetables on their WIC benefits. The bump in Cash Value Benefits was extended temporarily in November and December to \$47 for breastfeeding women, \$43 for some breastfeeding and non-breastfeeding postpartum and pregnant women, and \$24 for children over 1 year. During the summer months, each WIC participant was eligible for \$30 worth of Farmers' Market Nutrition Program vouchers vs. the normal amount of \$30 per family. These increased amount in fruits and vegetable dollars issued was directly correlated to a 15% increase in benefits redeemed in our counties.

2021 Outcomes

- 1,867 participants were served by WIC in both counties
- 34,614 WIC benefits were redeemed to purchase healthy foods
- \$1,147,393.44 worth of WIC benefits were redeemed at local vendors in both counties
- \$10,380 worth of vouchers were redeemed at farmer's markets
- 76% of WIC mothers initiated breastfeeding post-delivery (WI average is 69.9%)
- 41% of WIC mothers were still breastfeeding at 6 months, and 26% at 12 months (WI average is 16%)



Wisconsin Well Woman Program (WWWP)

WWWP provides preventive screening services for breast and cervical cancer to low income, uninsured or underinsured women residing in Wisconsin. Women screened and diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer may be eligible for Wisconsin Well Woman Medical Assistance (WWMA) for treatment.

2021 Outcomes

- 17 women participated in WWWP in Washington and Ozaukee Counties

Essential Service 8

Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce

Essential service 8 assures education and training of personnel to meet the needs for public and personal health service; adoption of continuous quality improvement and life-long learning; and active partnership with academic institutions. In order to provide the highest quality public health service, WOPHD strives to ensure that all of our staff possesses the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform their jobs effectively and efficiently.

Linkages with Academia

WOPHD has strong linkages with numerous institutions of higher education and serves as a site for student placement, observation, practice experience and internship. The majority of internship and clinical opportunities were put on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2021-- Outcomes

- WOPHD hosted two student interns early in 2020, who were later hired to assist with COVID-19 response through 2021.
- WOPHD is represented on the Medical College of Wisconsin MPH Advisory Board
- WOPHD is represented on the Concordia University School of Nursing Advisory Board
- WOPHD hosted undergraduate nursing students for the spring and fall semester from University of Wisconsin Milwaukee for their community health course.
- Concordia University partnered on a number of COVID-19 related efforts including testing and vaccination

Essential Service 9

Improve and innovate public health functions through ongoing evaluation, research, and continuous quality improvement

Essential service 9 refers to ongoing evaluation of health programs to assess program effectiveness and to provide information necessary for allocating resources and shaping programs. Each WOPHD program area will continue to be evaluated as we navigate away from the COVID-19 pandemic and begin to resume public health services that were paused in 2020.

Health and Family Services (HFS) 140 Review

The Wisconsin Department of Health Services is required to formally review the operations of all Wisconsin Local Health Departments every five years. The review establishes the health department as a level I, II, or III agency. A level I agency meets the minimum requirements and a level III meets the maximum requirements established for local health departments. As a newly merged department, WOPHD underwent a 140 Review and achieved a level III designation in the summer of 2018.

Essential Service 10

Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health

Essential Service 10 includes developing an understanding of the broader organizational infrastructures and roles that support the public health system in a jurisdiction, or in our case a multi-jurisdictional partnership. Essential service 10 also ensures that communications and strategic planning capabilities are employed by effective and ethical leadership, information technology services are current, and finances are managed effectively. WOPHD functioned under the leadership of two Interim Health Officers in 2021 and experienced changes in leadership across the department's management team.

Innovative Partnerships & Awards

2021—Outcomes

- The health department was honored to receive the Game Changer Award in Health from the NAACP Ozaukee County for unmatched efforts from the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic to our current state. Game Changer Awards are provided to an individual or an organization that has distinguished themselves in one of the six NAACP game-changer areas: economic stability, education, health, public safety & criminal justice, voting rights and political representation, and youth engagement.